

Appl. No. : 09/993,024
Filed : November 13, 2001

REMARKS

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendments to the Claims set forth above in which rejected Claims 12-14 and withdrawn Claim 16 have been canceled. The Office has indicated that remaining Claims 1-11 and 15 are allowed. Therefore, entry of the Amendment to the Claims is believed proper after final rejection because the Amendment cancels claims and places the application into condition for allowance.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional and/or continuation applications containing claims directed to all or part of the subject matter described in the instant application, including the subject matter of any claims amended, withdrawn, or canceled at any time during the prosecution of this application, and thus unclaimed subject matter is not dedicated to the public.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 12-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shirafuji et al., "PE-CVD of Fluorocarbon/SiO Composite Thin Films Using C₄F₈ and HMDSO," Plasmas and Polymers 4(1) 1999, 57-75 ("Shirafuji"). Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 12-14, and therefore respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

In addition to the reasons for allowing Claims 1-11 and 15 set forth in the Office Action of December 14, 2004, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the allowed claims (including the dependent claims) recites a combination of limitations that are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art of record, each alone or in any combination.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance, early notification of which would be appreciated. Applicants respectfully invite the Office to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below with any questions regarding this application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1/19/2005

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